United Nations S/PRST/2002/26

Security Council

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8 October 2002

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4619th meeting of the Security Council, held on 8 October 2002, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the briefing by the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (28 September 2001) (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) on the work of the Committee in the year since its establishment, and other reflections by members of the Committee.

"The Security Council recalls the statement of its President of 15 April 2002 (S/PRST/2002/10) which recorded its intention to review the structure and activities of the Committee no later than 4 October 2002. The Council confirms the continuation of the current arrangements for the Bureau of the Committee for a further six months. It invites the Counter-Terrorism Committee to pursue its agenda as set out in the work programme for the Committee's fifth ninety-day period (S/2002/1075), focusing on ensuring that all States have legislation in place covering all aspects of resolution 1373, a process in hand for ratifying as soon as possible the twelve international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, and effective executive machinery for preventing and suppressing terrorism financing; exploring ways in which States can be assisted to implement resolution 1373 (2001), in particular in the areas of primary focus; and building a dialogue with international, regional and subregional organizations active in the areas covered by the resolution. The Security Council invites these organizations to continue to find ways of improving their collective action against terrorism and, where appropriate, to work with donor States to establish suitable programmes.

"The Security Council notes with satisfaction that 174 Member States and 5 others have submitted a report to the Counter-Terrorism Committee pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). It calls on the 17 Member States which have not yet submitted a report to do so urgently.

"The Security Council invites the Counter-Terrorism Committee to report on its activities at regular intervals and expresses its intention to review the structure and activities of the Committee no later than 4 April 2003."

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Security Council

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18 October 2002

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4626th meeting of the Security Council, held on 18 October 2002, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the progress on withdrawal of foreign forces from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, stresses that these withdrawals must be completed, and calls for the implementation of all the agreements signed by the parties and all relevant resolutions of the Security Council. At the same time, the Council expresses its strong concerns at the rising tensions in the East of the country, in particular in Uvira and in the Ituri region.

"The Security Council condemns the continuing violence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular the attack on Uvira by Mai Mai and other forces, and views with great concern the build up of forces around Bukavu. The Council notes with concern that these actions add to the instability in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and threaten regional stability, have severe humanitarian consequences, especially by increasing the numbers of internally displaced persons and refugees, and could threaten the border security of Burundi and Rwanda.

"The Security Council calls on all parties to the conflict to cease hostilities immediately and without preconditions, welcomes the call by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in its communiqué of 14 October (S/2002/1143) for such a ceasefire and calls on the Government of the DRC and all governments in the region to exert their influence on all the parties to this effect and to refrain from any action which would further exacerbate the situation or undermine the peace process.

"The Security Council invites the Secretary-General to report further on the events in the region of Uvira and stresses the importance for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) to increase its monitoring presence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the regions bordering Burundi and Rwanda, as soon as security conditions allow such a deployment. It encourages all local actors, including the parties to the conflict as well as civil society and the religious organizations, to engage in talks in order to end the hostilities and agree on a basis for peaceful coexistence in the region during the transitional

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period in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In this regard, the Council encourages the Secretary-General to consider using his good offices to promote and facilitate such talks, with MONUC providing support where applicable.

"The Security Council reminds all parties in Uvira and in the area that they must abide by international humanitarian standards and ensure respect for human rights in the sectors they control.

"The Security Council expresses its deep concern over the intensification of ethnically targeted violence in the Ituri region. It condemns all such violence or incitement to violence. It requests all parties to take immediate actions to defuse these tensions, ensure the protection of civilians and end violations of human rights. The Council welcomes the efforts by the governments of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to set up the Ituri Pacification Commission, as set out under the Luanda Agreement, and requests MONUC to provide support in this regard when applicable.

"The Security Council stresses that no government, military force or any other organization or individual should provide military or other supplies or any other form of support to any of the groups involved in the fighting in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi.

"The Security Council also expresses its concern at the situation in Kisangani, and reiterates its demand that the city be demilitarized.

"The Security Council urges all Congolese parties to accelerate efforts to reach agreement on an all-inclusive transitional government and expresses its support for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General in this regard.

"The Security Council calls on all parties and armed groups involved in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to commit themselves to achieving a peaceful settlement for the region, and condemns any attempt to use military action to influence the peace process.

"The Security Council expresses its full support for the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, MONUC and the Government of South Africa.

"The Security Council calls on regional leaders to continue to support efforts to end the conflict in Burundi, and in this regard welcomes the recent visit of the Foreign Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to Burundi and the adoption of a joint communiqué by the two governments (S/2002/1142). The Council calls on the two governments rapidly to conclude an agreement on the normalization of relations and cooperation in security matters."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4627th meeting of the Security Council, held on 18 October 2002, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Central African Republic", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the holding of the Summit of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community in Libreville on 2 October 2002 to consider the situation between the Central African Republic and the Republic of Chad. It commends the leading role played by the President of the Gabonese Republic, El Hadj Omar Bongo, in organizing this meeting. It welcomes the undertaking by the Central African Republic and the Republic of Chad to relaunch cooperation at various levels. It strongly supports the intention of the President of the Republic of Chad to visit Bangui in the very near future. It encourages further confidence-building measures to help normalize the relations between the two countries.

"The Security Council further also welcomes the readiness expressed by the African Union to continue to contribute towards ongoing efforts to normalizing the relations between CAR and Chad and to promote peace and stability in the Central African Region as stipulated in the Communique of the Eighty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution issued on 11 October 2002, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

"The Security Council further welcomes the final communiqué of this meeting (S/2002/1113). In particular, it expresses its full support for the decision to deploy in the Central African Republic an International Observation Force (FIO) of 300 to 350 troops from Gabon, Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Mali with three main tasks: ensuring the safety of the President of the Central African Republic; observing and ensuring security on the border between Chad and the Central African Republic; and participating in the restructuring of the Central African Republic armed forces.

"The Security Council expresses once again its strong support for the Representative of the Secretary-General in the Central African Republic, General Lamine Cisse, whose efforts have been essential in this initiative. It encourages him to continue to provide advice to the Governments taking part in this initiative.

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"The Security Council calls upon Member States participating in the FIO to work in close consultation with the Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Peace Building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA). It requests the Secretary-General, through his Representative, to establish appropriate liaison with the FIO.

"The Security Council encourages all Member States to provide financial, logistical and material support to the Member States participating in the FIO.

"The Security Council invites the leadership of the FIO to provide periodic reports, at least every three months."

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Security Council

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24 October 2002

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4633rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 24 October 2002, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms its continued commitment to the full and effective implementation of Council resolution 1244 (1999) in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, commends the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Commander of the international security presence (KFOR) for the ongoing efforts to this end and calls upon the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government, local leaders and all others concerned to cooperate fully with them.

"The Security Council welcomes the progress made in preparing the municipal elections on 26 October 2002, calls upon all eligible voters, including those from minority communities, to seize the chance to have their interests properly represented by taking part in the elections. The Council expresses its firm belief that wide participation in the voting is essential to provide the best opportunity for future progress towards the building of a multi-ethnic and tolerant society."

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Security Council

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31 October 2002

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4639th meeting of the Security Council, held on 31 October 2002, in continuation of its consideration of the item entitled "Small arms" at its 4623rd meeting on 11 October 2002, the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms the Statement of its President of 24 September 1999 (S/PRST/1999/28) and its resolution 1209 (1998) of 19 November 1998, the statement of its President of 31 August 2001 (S/PRST/2001/21), takes note with appreciation of the Report of the Secretary-General entitled Small Arms (S/2002/1053) of 20 September 2002, and welcomes all initiatives taken by Member States following the adoption of the Programme of Action by the July 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects. The Council expresses grave concern at the harmful impact of small arms and light weapons on civilians in situations of armed conflict, particularly on vulnerable groups such as women and children, and recalls in this regard its resolutions 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000, 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, 1379 (2001) of 20 November 2001, and the statement of its President of 7 May 2002 (S/PRST/2002/12).

"The Security Council encourages all Member States to continue to take all measures to fully implement at the national, regional and international levels the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action. The Council recognizes its responsibility to examine ways and means in which it can further contribute to dealing with the question of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in situations under its consideration.

"The Security Council reaffirms the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and, subject to the Charter, the right of each State to import, produce and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs. Bearing in mind the considerable volume of licit trade in small arms and light weapons, the Council encourages States to adopt legislative and other measures to ensure effective control over the export, import, transit, stocking and storage of small arms and light weapons. The Council urges Member States to consistently and responsibly use end-user certificates in their transfers of small arms and light weapons and calls on States to establish an effective national end-user certificate system and to study the feasibility as

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appropriate of developing an end-user certificate system at the regional and global levels, as well as an information exchange and verification mechanism.

"Arms-exporting countries are encouraged to exercise the highest degree of responsibility in small arms and light weapons transactions. All States have the responsibility of preventing the illegal diversion and re-export of small arms and light weapons. The Security Council welcomes the establishment of the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts with a mandate to examine the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons. The Security Council encourages international cooperation in the consideration of the origin and transfers of small arms and light weapons.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, and calls upon States that have not already done so to establish, where applicable, a national register of arms brokers and, in the case of supply of arms to embargoed destinations, of intermediary firms, including transport agents. The Council urges States to impose appropriate penalties for all illicit brokering activities, as well as arms transfers that violate Security Council embargoes, and to take appropriate enforcement action.

"The Security Council stresses the need for cooperation and sharing of information among the Member States, among the different Sanctions Committees, and among the panels of experts and the monitoring mechanism on arms traffickers that have violated arms embargoes established by the Council. The Security Council welcomes the identification in cooperation with the States concerned of those arms traffickers who have violated the arms embargoes. The Security Council calls upon Member States to impose appropriate penalties on those arms traffickers who have violated its arms embargoes. In this connection, the Council calls on Member States to provide technical and financial support to Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System (IWETS).

"The Security Council recognizes the important role that the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) mechanism can play in assisting Member States with the implementation of the Programme of Action. In this regard, the Council notes the proposal of the Secretariat to create a Small Arms Advisory Service.

"The Security Council recognizes the important role of arms embargoes as targeted measures and their contribution to an overall strategy for preventive diplomacy particularly with respect to illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. In this regard, the Council underlines the importance of pursuing more vigorously and expeditiously the application of arms embargoes in countries or regions threatened by, engaged in or emerging from armed conflict and to promote their effective implementation. The Council shall also consider taking measures to restrict the supply of ammunition to such regions.

"The Security Council recognizes that the primary responsibility for the implementation of sanctions measures rests with States. At the same time, the Council underlines the importance of establishing on a case-by-case basis

specific monitoring mechanisms or similar arrangements as appropriate to oversee the strict implementation of arms embargoes decided by the Council. The Council may wish to study ways to strengthen such mechanisms with a view towards better coordinating their work. The Security Council should consider innovative strategies to address the close interrelationship between the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and, among others, drug trafficking, terrorism, organized crime and the illicit exploitation of natural and other resources. In this regard the Council calls on Member States to make available all relevant information concerning such activities.

"The Security Council reiterates its call for the effective implementation of arms embargoes imposed by the Council in its relevant resolutions, and encourages Member States to provide the Sanctions Committees with available information on alleged violations of arms embargoes. The Security Council also calls on Member States to give due consideration to the recommendations of the report of the Monitoring Group established pursuant to resolution 1390 (2002) (S/2002/1050 and Corr.1); the Report of the Monitoring Mechanism on Angola Sanctions (S/2000/1225 and Corr.1 and 2); the Report of the Panel of Experts on Sierra Leone Diamonds and Arms (S/2000/1195); and the Report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia (S/2001/1015 and S/2002/470).

"The Council also stresses the need to engage the relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations, business and financial institutions and other actors at the international, regional and local levels to contribute to the implementation of arms embargoes.

"Arms embargoes help to reduce arms flows to the targeted regions and groups but do not address weapons already existing in conflict areas. The Security Council therefore reiterates the importance of carrying out Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programmes as comprehensively and effectively as possible in post-conflict situations under its consideration.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to report, no later than December 2003, on the implementation of all the recommendations contained in his report."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4640th meeting of the Security Council, held on 31 October 2002, in continuation of its consideration of the item entitled "Strengthening cooperation between the United Nations system and the Central African region in the maintenance of peace and security" at its meeting held on 22 October 2002, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Security Council:

"The Security Council recalls all the statements by its President concerning the situation in Africa and the action taken by the United Nations, in particular the Security Council, in the field of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (S/1998/318).

"The Security Council recognizes that despite its enormous potential which could make it one of the poles of development of the continent, Central Africa has yet to achieve the stability that would enable it to utilize its resources to the maximum benefit of its population in an equitable manner.

"The Security Council notes that five of the twelve peacekeeping and peace-building missions under way on the continent are established in Central Africa. The Council also notes that of the sixteen Special Representatives and Special Envoys of the Secretary-General in Africa, six are in Central Africa. In this regard, it notes the work being done by the ad hoc Working Group on conflict prevention and resolution in Africa to improve the effectiveness of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Africa.

"The Security Council observes that the inadequacy of institutional and human capacities, particularly those directed towards the integration process, has hindered the social, economic and political integration in Central Africa.

"The Security Council takes note with satisfaction of the efforts made by the Central African States, both on their own initiative and with the support of the international community, to focus on the difficulties afflicting this key region of Africa. It also commends the progress made by certain Central African countries with regard to the promotion of democracy, the protection of human rights and sustainable development and encourages further efforts in this regard throughout the region.

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"The Security Council welcomes the increasing awareness of these difficulties among the Central African States which, at the ninth session of the Summit of Heads of State and Government, held at Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 24 June 1999, permitted a revival of the activities of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), and in particular the incorporation of a collective security component. In that connection, the Heads of State and Government set three principal priorities:

To develop sufficient capacities to ensure peace, security and stability in the region, as a prerequisite for economic development;

To promote the social, economic and monetary integration of Central Africa;

To develop within the subregion a genuine culture of integration.

"The Security Council also welcomes subregional efforts to promote conflict prevention, management and resolution in Central Africa. In that connection, the Council recognizes the steps taken by Central African countries to settle conflicts by peaceful means including through the conclusion, with the strong support of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, of a Protocol establishing, on 24 June 2000 (A/RES/55/34 B), the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX), comprising a Mutual Assistance Pact and a Non-Aggression Pact. In this regard, it encourages its speedy ratification and implementation by all the countries concerned and urges United Nations Member States in a position to do so, to support the operationalization of its main structures, inter alia, the Central African Early Warning System, the Defence and Security Commission the Central African Multinational Force, with the full support of the United Nations system.

"The Security Council also recognizes the important role that regional and subregional organizations can play in preventing the illicit traffic of small arms and light weapons and the flow of such arms to conflicts, and underscores the importance of regional agreements and cooperation as well as strengthening subregional technical capacities to prevent such flows.

"The Security Council notes with satisfaction that as a result of all these efforts the subregion is gradually emerging from the conflicts that affect it, which offers an opportunity to build peace to be seized by all parties, with a requirement for the mobilization of significant resources to support demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes.

"The Security Council affirms the need to promote and strengthen the partnership between the United Nations system and Central African States in relation to the maintenance of peace and security, and, in that connection, it emphasizes that capacities in the subregion, inter alia, in the area of conflict prevention and the maintenance of peace and security, as well as economic integration, should be strengthened. It also calls on the Central African States with the support of the United Nations system to improve the effectiveness, coordination and cohesion of the subregional organizations.

"The Security Council also reaffirms the importance of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes in the process of conflict

resolution in Central Africa. In that connection, it urges the Central African States to initiate such programmes where they are needed, inter alia, through the implementation of quick impact projects and calls on the International Community to support them. The Security Council expresses its appreciation of the renewed commitment of the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assist post-conflict operations in Central Africa in the short, medium and long term and encourages the organizations to closely coordinate their efforts with the Secretary-General and his Representatives in the field to ensure more efficiency and complementarity.

"The Security Council recommends the inclusion, where appropriate, of support for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in the mandates of peacekeeping and peace-building operations. It recognizes the interlinkage between peacekeeping and peace-building activities, and will continue to take into account the need for coordination and smooth transition from one phase to the other during its consideration of peace operations.

"The Security Council emphasizes the urgency of reaching an appropriate solution to the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons in Central Africa.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive, integrated, resolute and concerted approach to the issues of peace, security and development in Central Africa. In that connection, it invites the Secretary-General to brief the Security Council, within six months, on ways to implement such an approach for Central Africa, including through the dispatch to the region of an inter-agency evaluation mission."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4641st meeting of the Security Council, held on 31 October 2002 in connection with the 2nd anniversary of the Security Council's adoption of its resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on the item entitled "Women, Peace and Security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), and welcomes the increasing focus over the last two years on the situation of women and girls in armed conflict, and recalls the Statement by its President of 31 October 2001 (S/PRST/2001/31) and the meetings held on 25 July 2002 and 28 October 2002 as expressions of that commitment.

"The Security Council welcomes the Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security (S/2002/1154) and expresses its intention to study the recommendations contained therein. The Council also welcomes the efforts of the United Nations system, Member States, civil society and other relevant actors, to promote equal participation of women in peace and security.

"The Security Council remains concerned about the slow progress in the appointment of women as special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General, and urges the Secretary-General to increase the number of women serving as high-level representatives to achieve the overall goal of gender balance. The Council also urges Member States to continue to provide candidates to the Secretary-General for inclusion in a database.

"The Security Council, reaffirming the importance of gender mainstreaming in peacekeeping operations and post-conflict reconstruction, undertakes to integrate gender perspectives into the mandates of all peacekeeping missions, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that all reports submitted to the Security Council in accordance with such mandates systematically address gender perspectives. The Council also requests the Secretary-General to provide systematic training of all staff in peacekeeping operations on gender perspectives, and to integrate gender perspectives into all standard operating procedures, manuals and other guidance materials for peacekeeping operations.

"The Security Council considers that the appointment of gender advisers at sufficiently senior levels at Headquarters is necessary. The Council notes

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that some progress has been made in gender mainstreaming at mission level, specifically through the establishment of gender units and gender advisers, but that more remains to be done in order to ensure that gender mainstreaming in peacekeeping operations and post-conflict reconstruction is thorough and effective, and applied systematically.

"The Security Council undertakes to integrate gender perspectives into the terms of reference of its visits and Missions to countries and regions in conflict. To that end, the Council requests the Secretary-General to establish a database of gender specialists as well as women's groups and networks in countries and regions in conflict, and to include gender specialists in the teams where relevant.

"The Security Council recognizes the vital role of women in promoting peace, particularly in preserving social order and educating for peace. The Council encourages its Member States and the Secretary-General to establish regular contacts with local women's group and networks in order to utilize their knowledge of both the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, including as victims and ex-combatants, and of peacekeeping operations, to ensure that those groups are actively involved in reconstruction processes, particularly at decision-making levels.

"The Security Council, recalling its resolutions 1265 (1999), 1296 (2000), 1324 (2000) and 1379 (2001), encourages Member States, the entities of the United Nations system, civil society and other relevant actors, to develop clear strategies and action plans with goals and timetables, on the integration of gender perspectives in humanitarian operations, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes, including monitoring mechanisms, and also to develop targeted activities, focused on the specific constraints facing women and girls in post-conflict situations, such as their lack of land and property rights and access to and control over economic resources.

"The Security Council deplores the continuing occurrence of sexual exploitation, including trafficking, of women and girls in the context of peacekeeping operations and humanitarian activities, and calls for the further development and full implementation of codes of conduct and of disciplinary procedures to prevent such exploitation. The Council encourages all actors, in particular troop-contributing countries, to enhance monitoring mechanisms, and to investigate and prosecute effectively cases of alleged misconduct.

"The Security Council condemns all violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed conflict, and the use of sexual violence, including as a strategic and tactical weapon of war, which, inter alia, places women and girls at increased risk of contracting sexually-transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS.

"The Security Council decides to remain actively seized of this matter and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a follow-up report on the full implementation of resolution 1325 to be presented to the Security Council in October 2004."